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Title: Regarding alleged violation of labour laws in Cochin International Airport Limited in Kerala.

SHRI M.B. RAJESH (PALAKKAD): Madam, Air India has its highest profit margin from its ground handling services. This is nothing but sweat and blood of its contract workers. These contract workers are hugely under-paid and shockingly exploited.

Madam Speaker, in the Cochin International Airport Limited, one sub-contractor of Air India, Khullar Hospitality Private Limited has slashed the wages of employees by half. This decision of slashing the wages was unanimously arrived at in an agreement in the presence of the Regional Labour Commissioner. What is more shocking is that this Khullar Hospitality company is now insisting that each employee should sign a Stamp Paper agreeing to their draconian conditions, which are against the labour laws.

Madam, these sub-contractors including this particular company are making huge profits by underpaying workers and also by underreporting their actual revenue. By underreporting their actual revenue, they are not paying its due share to Air India and are also evading taxes. This is being done in connivance with Air India officials.

I, would, therefore, demand that both the Air India and the Tax Authorities should investigate this fraud and also take stern action to stop blatant violation of the labour laws in airports.

HON. SPEAKER: Adv. Joice George, Shri P.K. Biju, Shri P. Karunakaran, Dr. A. Sampath and Shri Sankar Prasad Datta are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri M.B. Rajesh.